In The Claims:

     Please amend claims 11 and 14, and add new claim 21. The amendments to pending claims 11 and 14 and the addition of new claim 21 are indicated below in the associated claim listing, which is provided on separate sheets. The status of the claims is also shown therein.

     The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. **Remarks** begin on page 8 of this paper.

Claims 1-10 (Cancelled).

11. (Currently Amended) A hot-rolled steel sheet <u>for processing and having a superior bake</u>
<u>hardenability after aging,</u> comprising:

    at least one portion which comprises, in terms of percent by mass,

        C of approximately 0.01% to 0.2%,

        Si of approximately 0.01 to 0.3%,

        Mn of <u>at most</u> approximately ~~0.1% to 1.5%~~ <u>(1.5 - Si) %,</u>

        P of at most approximately 0.1%,

        S of at most approximately 0.03%,

        Al of approximately 0.001% to 0.1%,

        N of at most approximately 0.006%, and

        a remainder of Fe and unavoidable impurities,

    wherein a microstructure ~~of the at least one portion includes~~ <u>consists essentially of</u> a main
phase having a form of a polygonal ferrite and a hard second phase <u>of martensite,</u> ~~and~~

    wherein a volume fraction of the hard second phase is approximately 3% to 20%, a
hardness ratio of a hardness of the hard second phase to a hardness of the polygonal ferrite is
about 1.5 to 6, and a grain size ratio of a grain size of the polygonal ferrite to a grain size of the
hard second phase is at least approximately 1.5<u>,</u>

    <u>wherein a BH amount after aging is at least approximately 60 MPa, and</u>

    <u>wherein the hot-rolled steel sheet is manufactured by:</u>

    <u>i.</u>   <u>rough-rolling a slab to obtain a rough rolled bar, the slab including, in terms of</u>

        <u>percent by mass, C of approximately 0.01% to 0.2%, Si of approximately 0.01 to</u>

0.3%, Mn of at most approximately (1.5 - Si) %, P of at most approximately

0.1%, S of at most approximately 0.03%, Al of approximately 0.001% to 0.1%, N

of at most approximately 0.006%, and a remainder of Fe and unavoidable

impurities,

ii.   finish rolling the rough rolled bar to obtain a rolled steel under conditions in

which a sum of reduction rates of a final stage and a stage prior to the final stage

is at least approximately 25%, a reduction rate of the final stage is about 1% to

15%, and a finishing temperature is in a temperature range from approximately an

Ar_3 transformation point temperature to an Ar_3 transformation point temperature

$\pm 100°C$,

iii.   maintaining the rolled steel in a temperature range from approximately below the

Ar_3 transformation point temperature to at least the Ar_1 transformation

temperature for approximately 1 second to 15 seconds,

iv.   cooling the rolled steel to a temperature of approximately 350°C at a cooling rate

of approximately at least 100°C/sec to obtain the hot-rolled steel sheet; and

v.   coiling the hot-rolled steel sheet at a temperature of below approximately 350°C.

12. (Previously Presented) The hot-rolled steel sheet for processing according to claim 11,

wherein the at least one portion further comprises, in terms of percent by mass, at least one of:

B of approximately 0.0002% to 0.002%,

Cu of approximately 0.2% to 1.2%,

Ni of approximately 0.1% to 0.6%,

Mo of approximately 0.05% to 1%,

V of approximately 0.02% to 0.2%, or

Cr of approximately 0.01% to 1%.

13. (Previously Presented) The hot-rolled steel sheet for processing according to claim 11, wherein the at least one portion further comprises, in terms of percent by mass, at least one of:

Ca of approximately 0.0005% to 0.005%, or

REM of approximately 0.0005% to 0.02%.

14. (Currently Amended) The hot-rolled steel sheet for processing according to claim 11, wherein the at least one ~~port~~ portion is treated with zinc plating.

Claims 15-20 (Withdrawn).

21. (New) The hot-rolled steel sheet for processing according to claim 11, wherein the hot-rolled steel sheet has a tensile strength of about 370 Mpa to 490 Mpa.